Drinking water to villages

*55. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages and hamlets in India not getting sufficient drinking water supply;

(b) by when Government plan to provide clean drinking water to these villages and hamlets;

(c) whether adequate financial provision has been made for the same; if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the population that is deprived of drinking water to date?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) to (d) Out of 1422664 rural habitations, 110542 rural habitations do not get sufficient drinking water supply at the rate of 40 litres per capita per day norm.

(b) The objectives set for the rural water supply in the National Agenda for Governance (NAG) of the Government of India envisage provision of safe drinking water to all rural habitations by 2004. Drinking water supply being a State subject, schemes for providing drinking water facilities to rural habitations are implemented by the State Governments with their own resources. The Government of India supplements their efforts by providing financial assistance under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). State Governments have been directed to chalk out action plan to cover all habitations with drinking water facility by 31st March, 2004.

Within the available resource, financial provision of Rs. 2585.00 crore has been made for 2003-04.

With reference to the number of habitations having less than 40 litres per capita per day (Ipcd) drinking water facilities, it is estimated that as on date 4.31% of rural population is having less than 40 Ipcd of drinking water supply.